Approved For Release 2002/08/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R012000400004-4

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION 25X1A

INFORMATION	REPORT
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REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea DATE DISTR.

23 May 1952

SUBJECT

Prisoner of War Camps, North Korea

NO. OF PAGES

25X1C

25X1 NFO.

NO. OF ENCLS.

PLACE **ACQUIRED**

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. In March 1952 approximately 3,700 ROK prisoners of war were at Sungho-ri (125-58, 38-59) (YD-5719) at the site of a former cement factory. Eighty

- percent of the prisoners had been captured on the east coast. Thirty percent of the prisoners were noncommissioned or commissioned officers. The camp, encircled with barbed wire, was about 1,500 meters in diameter. The camp's program stressed political indoctrination of the prisoners more than forced labor. The prisoners received 10 hop to 14 hop daily of rice, cereals, vegetables, or soup. Some of the prisoners had volunteered to join the North Korean army. Agents from the Ministry of Social Security contacted the prisoners once each week to determine which of the prisoners might be used as agents. The indoctrination included an explanation of Marxist and Leminist theory and of the twenty policies of KIM Il-song, a study of the armistice talks and of the history of social development, and propaganda concerning the ROK government. One battalion from the Ministry of Internal Affairs was guarding the camp.
- 2. In March ROK prisoners captured in mid-January 1951 near Kangp'o-ri (125-57, 39-27) (XD-5470) were being held in sixty well-camouflaged shelters at the foot of a hill behind the Kaech on (125-54, 39-42) (YD-4998) Middle School. Each prisoner received about three hop of cereal and salted water daily; all prisoners were undernourished, and some died of malnutrition. Eight hours of hard labor and two hours of study were required of the prisoners. One company of men were guarding the camp.
- 3. In March four thousand ROK prisoners were in 90 shelters at Pirang-dong (125-51, 38-38) (YC-4880). Prisoners received slightly more food than the prisoners held at Kaech'on. The prisoners were cutting wood and repairing roads.

In March approximately 4,300 ROK prixoners, chiefly noncommissioned and commissioned officers, were at a camp in the Suan gold mine (126-23, 38-47) (BT-7396) RETURN TO ARCHIVES & RECORDS CENTER

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